

**Report and Accounts
The Parochial Church Council
Of St Peter, Balsall Common
Year ended 31st December 2025**

Registered charity number 1184291

Annual Report St Peter Balsall Common

Table of Contents

Trustee Report..... 3

Independent Examiner’s Report 8

Financial Review.....9

Statement of Financial Activities.....10

Balance Sheet.....11

Notes to the Accounts.....12

Annual Report St Peter Balsall Common

Trustee Report

Aim and purposes

The Parochial Church Council of St Peter, Balsall Common ("PCC") has the responsibility of promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church and church hall buildings and grounds.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to ensuring that as many residents of the parish as possible are able to worship at the church, and to become part of our church community. The PCC's charitable objects are primarily focused on the advancement of religion, which is recognised as a charitable purpose having public benefit. All regular worship is provided free of charge and is open to all. In addition, the PCC's activities include:

- The provision of sacred space for private prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved
- Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- Taking of religious assemblies in schools.
- Promoting the whole mission of the Church through provision of activities for parents and babies and young children
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas
- Provision and maintenance of a hall for regular public worship and other church activities, and also as a community facility available to all for recreational activities when not in use by the church

To facilitate our whole mission it is important to maintain the fabric of the church and the hall.

The PCC has complied with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on the safeguarding of vulnerable adults and children (under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016). Alison Bennett is appointed Safeguarding Officer.

Annual Report St Peter Balsall Common

Achievements and Performance

Ministry

The Reverend Suzy Pearson is our vicar, and assisted by Moira Johnson, Alison Bennett and Chris Price as readers, and Mary Partridge as a lay leader of family services.

Worship and Prayer

St Peter's embraces diverse worship styles, providing traditional and informal services alongside special events for all ages. We also offer online access to our services held in Church, to allow us to reach a wider audience, including those unable to visit in person due to illness or infirmity. Key services include weekly Sunday services with a mix of formats, lay-led services focused on accessibility, and community engagement sessions.

Readers, lay leaders and volunteers play crucial roles in service delivery and pastoral care. We actively collaborate with other local churches through joint services and community events, fostering cooperation and support.

We continue praying for our work with the children and their parents and for more new people to join our congregation. Thanks to a grant from Knowle United Charities, we hope to expand our work with local secondary school pupils in 2026.

Throughout 2025 we have continued to offer the ministry of occasional offices, baptisms, weddings, funerals and burial of ashes services, which are significant occasions for many members of the parish and beyond. In particular, we held the funerals of several long-standing and much-loved members of the congregation. We remember with grateful affection their loyal service to this church.

Annual Report St Peter Balsall Common

Church Centre

This year we continued to open the church daily, for all who seek a place for quiet contemplation and prayer. St Peter's continues to hold drop-in Warm Hub sessions on Thursday afternoons.

The hall is used not only for church events but is hired out to a range of community groups, including exercise, drama and activities for the retired, as well as being available for private parties. This year we carried out a survey of hall users on how they use the hall, and what improvements they hope to see. We are looking to raise funds to carry out these improvements in 2026.

Pastoral

We organise several groups who meet regularly to learn more about Christianity, ask questions and express fears and doubts in a safe environment. Each group has a different audience and structure, so that as many as possible can attend one or more. Home communions are also available for the sick and housebound.

Mission and Evangelism

We have a small but active branch of the Mothers' Union at St Peters, who take part in activities such as knitting clothes for premature babies, and blankets and teddies. A weekly group called Teeny Tinies and Toddlers meets during the school terms to provide support and company for parents and carers of pre-school children. We also run a monthly tea party, alongside the Warm Hub, providing a friendly place to meet, particularly for older members of our community. We fundraise on a regular basis for The Children's Society, including at the annual Christingle service. We have continued to collect food and other essentials for Helping Hands, a local food bank.

We are active on Facebook, and we have a church website where people can contact and connect with the church. In addition, we have a YouTube channel, where members of the congregation, and others who would not normally attend church, may access recordings of our services, along with activities for families.

Annual Report St Peter Balsall Common

Ecumenical Relationships

We are members of Churches Together in Balsall and Berkswell, joining with other churches in the area for coffee mornings, Lenten breakfasts, and other social activities, as well as fundraising for local and international charities.

Volunteers

The church would be unable to function without the hard work and dedication of a band of volunteers, and the PCC would like to place on record our heartfelt thanks to them all. Christine Hornsby retired as Churchwarden this year, and the PCC wish to thank her for all her work for the church, and for the hall during many years of faithful service.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The current incumbent is ex officio chair of the PCC, and the Churchwardens and Deanery Synod members are ex officio members of the PCC. Other members are elected to the PCC by members of the electoral roll at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting and may also be co-opted during the year. Members of the congregation are actively encouraged to register on the electoral roll, and to stand for membership of the PCC.

The PCC are responsible for making all decisions concerning the general running of the church, the raising of funds, and the use of those funds. The PCC met 5 times during the year and discussed a range of issues including Safeguarding, discussing the Diocese's "People and Places" initiative, and fundraising. The Standing Committee, comprising of the incumbent, Churchwardens, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer also meet outside PCC meetings when there are urgent issues to discuss. There are also several sub-groups which meet on a regular basis, such as the Premises Committee, which are granted powers to make decisions on the buildings and to report back regularly to the main PCC.

Annual Report St Peter Balsall Common

Administrative Information

The church is situated in Holly Lane, Balsall Common, CV7 7EA. It is part of the Diocese of Birmingham, within the Church of England. The church does not have a parish office phone number, but emails can be sent to vicar@spcbalsall.org.uk. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measures 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission, number 1184291.

PCC members who have served at any time since 1st January 2025 to the date of this report are:

Ex Officio Members

The Reverend Susan Pearson
Christine Hornsby (Churchwarden until 1st July 2025)
Sarah Roth (Churchwarden)
Stuart Lee (Churchwarden appointed 1st July 2025)
Eileen Lamb (Deanery Synod representative)
Moira Johnson (Deanery Synod representative)
Rachel Westwood (Deanery Synod representative)
Peter Lee (Deanery Synod representative resigned 13th September 2025)

Elected Members

Alla Pavuk (Honorary Secretary until 18th May 2025)
John Pearson (Honorary Secretary appointed 25th May 2025)
Christine Lee (Honorary Treasurer)
Christine Hunnisett
Amy Kershaw
Bryan Marlow
Christine Hornsby (resigned 12th February 2026)
Robert Farmer
Edward Perkin (resigned 2nd April 2025)
Rosemary Birse
Margaret Mayhew
Dr Leslie de Chernatony
Susan Williams
William Chamberlain
Kimberley Steele

Annual Report St Peter Balsall Common

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the members / trustees of St Peter Balsall Common Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 10 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustee and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

Signed



Alison Lowe

May 2026

Annual Report St Peter Balsall Common

Financial Review

The accounts for the year show a surplus of incoming to outgoing resources for the year of £14,775 as opposed to a surplus of £2,394 in the previous year. However, £3,000 was granted for work with secondary school children in 2026, and £9,896 was granted for additional solar panels and battery storage for the hall, which will be spent in 2026.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary giving, excluding legacies, increased by £21,415. This includes the grants mentioned above, plus grants of £10,000 to allow for the repair of the fleche. The increase of £8,202 in Income from charitable activities is due to higher income from fundraising, parish fees and hall lettings.

Expenditure

Day-to-day running costs are generally under control, although there were increases in utility costs of £1,269 and increased costs of maintenance. We increased our voluntary additional payment to Common Fund by £2,000. We repaired the fleche on the church roof at a cost of £12,000.

Reserves Policy

We aim to keep at least £22,000 (three months' running costs) in reserves. In addition to restricted reserves of £13,555 at 31 December 2025, we are also holding funds to cover the costs of necessary improvements to the hall in 2026.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts, in accordance with s10 of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the incumbent Vicar and the Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a special faculty for disposal are inalienable church property, listed in the Church's terrier which can be inspected at any reasonable time.

Equipment used on the Church premises is capitalised if it is over £5,000 and written off over a 5-year period.

Annual Report St Peter Balsall Common

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES For the year ended 31 December 2025

		2025		2024	
	Note:	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
Income and Endowments					
Donations and legacies	2	62,618	23,694	86,312	64,900
Income from charitable activities	3	27,013	960	27,973	19,775
Other trading activities	4	1,309	0	1,309	1,532
Total income and endowments		90,940	24,654	115,594	86,207
Expenditure					
Cost of raising funds		0	0	0	0
Cost of generating funds for voluntary income		0	0	0	0
Charitable activities	5	87,983	12,836	100,819	83,813
		87,983	12,836	100,819	83,813
Transfer Unrestricted Funds to Restricted Funds		1,781	-1,781	0	0
Net movement in funds		4,738	10,037	14,775	2,394
Reconciliation of funds					
Funds brought forward		30,002	3,518	33,520	31,126
Funds carried forward		34,740	13,555	48,295	33,520

Annual Report St Peter Balsall Common

BALANCE SHEET As at 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts at HSBC	48,033	33,270
Bank Accounts at CBF	<u>262</u>	<u>250</u>
	48,295	33,520
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	0	0
	<u>48,295</u>	<u>33,520</u>
Net Current Assets		
	<u>48,295</u>	<u>33,520</u>
Net Assets		
	<u>48,295</u>	<u>33,520</u>
Represented by		
Unrestricted Funds	34,740	30,002
Restricted Funds	<u>13,555</u>	<u>3,518</u>
	<u>48,295</u>	<u>33,520</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 21/04/26

And signed on its behalf by: Reverend S Pearson, Chairman



The notes on pages 12 and 13 form part of these accounts

Annual Report St Peter Balsall Common

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

1) ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations (2006) together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP (FRS102).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention. The financial statements contain all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

Funds

Restricted funds represent donations or grants received for a specific purpose and may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any surplus of income over expenditure must be carried forward to the following year, to be expended on the same object.

Unrestricted funds represent donations or grants which may be used for the PCC's ordinary purposes.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are accounted for when they are received. Tax refunds are accounted for when they are received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when they are received. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Expenditure

Donations are accounted for when they are awarded. The Common Fund is accounted for when it is due. All other liabilities are recognised when they are due and are accounted for gross.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts, in accordance with s10 of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the incumbent Vicar and the Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a special faculty for disposal are inalienable church property, listed in the Church's terrier which can be inspected at any reasonable time.